Supply of Essential Commodities to Haryana

*372. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Essential Commodities like sugar, rice, wheat, etc. have not been fully supplied to Haryana during the last three years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the actual requirement and the supply made to Haryana during the above period, month-wise;

(d) whether Government propose to take effective steps in this regard and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) to (e) The allocations of foodgrains (wheat and rice) for Public Distribution System from the Central Pool are only supplemental in nature and are made on a month to month basis taking into account the stocks in the Central Pool, market availability, offtake trend, relative needs of various States and other related factors. A statement showing the particulars in respect of rice and wheat supplies to Haryana is attached. [*See* Appendix CLI, AnN173]

As regards sugar, the allocations are made on the basis of a uniform norms of 425 gramso per capita per month based on the population as on 1-10-83 upto Jannary, 1987 and thereater uo the population as on 1—10—86.

Ban on the conversion of agrcultural land for residential purposies

*373. SHRI TINDIVANAM G. VENKATRAMAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that a major portion of agricultural and cultivable land is being converted into residential sites and the increase of such conversion of land into residential sites is threatening agricultural production; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to bring any legislation to put an end to the menace of conversion of agricultural land into residential sites?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BHAJAN LAL): (a) and (b) Conversion of agricultural land into residential sites is taking place on account of growing population and diversification of economic activity. Such conversion to non-agricultural use is, however, not of such a magnitude as to pose a threat to the growth in agricultural production. However, Government of India have been repeatedly impressing on all the States and the U.Ts that good agricultural land should not be diverted to non-agricultural purposes.

Proposal for grant of pension to the people living below the poverty line

*374. SHRI KAHNU CHARAN LENKA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state;

(a) whether there is any proposal to give pension to the landless labourers, small and marginal farmers, village artisans, construction workers and other poor people who are living below the poverty line in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the proposal is likely to be implemented?